

Contents

Foreword	13
1 History	15
1.1 Introduction	15
1.2 Peptide angiotensin receptor blockers	16
1.3 Angiotensin II antibodies	17
1.4 Non-peptide angiotensin receptor blockers	17
1.5 Literature	19
2 Angiotensin receptors – mechanism of action	23
2.1 Introduction	23
2.2 The AT ₁ receptor	23
2.2.1 Signal transduction	23
2.2.2 AT ₁ receptor regulation and kinetics	25
2.2.3 AT ₁ receptor polymorphism	27
2.3 The AT ₂ receptor	27
2.3.1 Signal transduction	28
2.3.2 Receptor regulation	29
2.3.3 Physiological effects	29
2.4 Surmountable versus insurmountable	30
2.4.1 Background	30
2.4.2 Angiotensin II AT ₁ receptor antagonists	33
2.4.3 Neuroendocrine effects	34
2.4.4 Differences between angiotensin receptor blockers and ACE inhibitors	35



2.5 Side effects	39
2.6 Literature	41
3 Non-peptide angiotensin II angiotensin receptor blockers	53
3.1 Losartan (Cozaar®): dose 50-100 mg	53
3.2 Valsartan (Diovan®): dose 80-160 mg	54
3.3 Irbesartan (Aprovel®): dose 150-300 mg	54
3.4 Candesartan (Atacand/Amias®): dose 8-16 mg	54
3.5 Eprosartan (Teveten®): dose 600 mg	55
3.6 Telmisartan (Micardis®): dose 40-80 mg	55
3.7 Olmesartan (Olmetec®): dose 5-80 mg	55
3.8 Literature	56
4 Hypertension	59
4.1 Specific mechanism of action in hypertension	59
4.2 Comparison with ACE inhibitors	61
4.3 Head-to-head studies	61
4.3.1 Losartan versus valsartan	61
4.3.2 Losartan versus irbesartan	63
4.3.3 Losartan versus irbesartan versus valsartan	64
4.3.4 Losartan versus candesartan	65
4.3.5 Losartan versus telmisartan	66
4.3.6 Losartan versus olmesartan, valsartan and irbesartan	67
4.3.7 Valsartan versus telmisartan	67
4.4 Are there any differences between the angiotensin receptor blockers?	68
4.5 LIFE, SCOPE, and VALUE	69
4.5.1 The LIFE results	69
4.5.2 Interpretation of the LIFE study data	70
4.5.3 The SCOPE results	71
4.5.4 Interpretation of the SCOPE data	72
4.5.5 The VALUE results	73
4.5.6 Interpretation of the VALUE study data	77

4.6 The role of angiotensin receptor blockers in hypertension	78
4.7 Literature	82
5 Diabetic nephropathy	89
5.1 Specific mechanism of action in diabetic nephropathy	89
5.2 Animal studies	90
5.3 Clinical research	91
5.4 The IRMA, IDNT, RENAAL and MARVAL studies	92
5.5 The DETAILED study	95
5.6 ACE inhibitor or angiotensin receptor blocker?	100
5.7 Literature	100
6 Prevention of type 2 diabetes mellitus	105
6.1 Introduction	105
6.2 Specific mechanism of action in the prevention of type 2 diabetes mellitus	106
6.2.1 Effects of angiotensin receptor blockers on insulin resistance	106
6.2.2 Effects of angiotensin receptor blockers on beta-cell dysfunction	108
6.3 Clinical research	108
6.4 Literature	109
7 Chronic heart failure	113
7.1 Specific mechanism of action in chronic heart failure	113
7.2 Difference in mechanism of action compared with ACE inhibitors	115
7.3 Animal studies	116
7.4 Clinical research	116
7.5 The ELITE trials	119
7.5.1 Interpretation of the data from the ELITE trials	121
7.6 The ValHeFT	122
7.6.1 Interpretation of the ValHeFT data	125
7.7 The CHARM study	129
7.7.1 CHARM-alternative	130



7.7.2	CHARM-added	131
7.7.3	CHARM-preserved	132
7.7.4	CHARM-overall	135
7.8	Role of angiotensin receptor blockers in the treatment of chronic heart failure	135
7.9	Literature	137
8	Acute myocardial infarction	143
8.1	Introduction	143
8.2	Specific mechanism of action in acute myocardial infarction	144
8.3	Experimental studies	146
8.4	Clinical trials	147
8.5	VALIANT	150
8.5.1	Interpretation of the VALIANT data	153
8.6	Role of angiotensin receptor blockers in acute myocardial infarction	155
8.7	Literature	156
9	Vascular effects	163
9.1	Development and progression of atherosclerosis	163
9.2	Activation of the renin-angiotensin system in atherosclerotic plaques	165
9.3	Relationship between angiotensin II and atherosclerosis	166
9.4	Effects of angiotensin receptor blockers on atherosclerosis	169
9.5	Effects of angiotensin receptor blockers on restenosis following percutaneous coronary intervention	173
9.6	Role of angiotensin receptor blockers in the prevention of atherosclerosis	174
9.7	Literature	176
10	Stroke	183
10.1	Introduction	183
10.2	Specific mechanism of action of angiotensin receptor blockers in cerebrovascular disease	184
10.3	Clinical trials	186

10.4 The ACCESS trial	189
10.5 The MOSES trial	192
10.6 Role of angiotensin receptor blockers in patients with a stroke	192
10.7 Literature	193
11 Headache and migraine	197
11.1 Introduction	197
11.2 Specific mechanism of action in headache and migraine	198
11.3 Clinical trials	199
11.4 Role of angiotensin receptor blockers in headache and migraine	201
11.5 Literature	201
12 Atrial fibrillation	205
12.1 Introduction	205
12.2 Specific mechanism of action in atrial fibrillation	205
12.2.1 Hypertension	206
12.2.2 Reduction in neuroendocrine activation	206
12.2.3 Reduction in structural cardiac remodelling	206
12.2.4 Reduction in functional cardiac remodelling	207
12.3 Clinical trials	207
12.4 Role of angiotensin receptor blockers in atrial fibrillation	209
12.5 Literature	210
13 Conclusion	213

